Charles R.

To Our truſtie and welbeloved, the Lord Maior, Aldermen, and Sheriffs of Our City of *London*.

TRuſtie and Welbeloved, We greet you well. Whereas We have received ſeverall Informations of great ſums of Money endeavoured to be borrowed of Our City of *London*, by ſome direction proceeding from both Houſes of Parliament, and likewiſe that great labour is uſed to perſwade Our Subjects to raiſe Horſe, and to furniſh Money, upon pretence of providing a Guard for Our Parliament; Theſe are to let you know, that (notwithſtanding any ſcandalous Votes which have preſumed to Declare Our Intentions of levying War againſt Our Parliament, and to lay other aſperſions on Us, ſo fully diſavowed by Us in the preſence of Almightie God, by Our ſeverall Anſwers and Declarations) all Our deſires and purpoſes are for the publike Peace, and that We have not the leaſt thought of action, and uſing Force, except We are compelled to it for the defence [illegible] that you ſuffer not your ſelves to be miſ-led by ſuch vaine and improbable ſuggeſtions, and do declare, That if you ſhall lend any ſums of Money towards the Relief of *Ireland* (to which We have contributed all the aſſiſtance could be deſired of Us, which way ſoever the Money given and raiſed to that purpoſe is diſpoſed) or towards the payment of Our Scots Subjects, We ſhall take it as an acceptable ſervice at your hands; but if upon generall pretences, contrived by a few Factious Perſons againſt the Peace of the Kingdome, you ſhall give or lend any Money, or provide or raiſe any Horſes or Arms towards the raiſing ſuch a Guard, We ſhall look upon it as the raiſing Force againſt Us, and to be done in malice and contempt of Us and Our Authority. And We do therefore ſtraitly charge and command you to publiſh this Our Letter to the ſeverall Maſters and Wardens of the ſeverall Companies, that they may be aſſured, that ſuch Money as they ſhall lend out of their good affection to the Kingdome, may be only imployed for *Ireland* or *Scotland*, and not towards ſuch Guards, which (in truth) are intended by the Contrivers of that Deſigne (though We beleeve many honeſt men ſeduced by them do not yet ſee their end) to be imployed againſt Us: And if you and they ſhall herein faile punctually and ſeverally to obſerve Our Commands, We ſhall not onely proceed againſt the ſeverall Companies for deceiving the Truſt repoſed in them; but againſt the particular perſons, as Contemners and Oppoſers of Our Authority, and of the Law of the Land, in the moſt exemplary way the known Law of the Land ſhall preſcribe to Us; And ſhall be compelled to queſtion the Charter of your City, which We are willing yet to beleeve (notwithſtanding the barbarous and inſolent demeanour of the meaner and baſer ſort) in a good degree to continue loyall to Us. And of your obedience to theſe our Commands We do expect a full Accompt, and of the names of ſuch perſons who ſhall oppoſe the contrary at your perill.